

our childhood happy day, Long ago, remp and play In the snow. When our laughter When at school we learned to add We our first wee sweetheart had, As you know.

O, she was an angel fair From the skies, With glory in her hair And her eyes; How our little hearts would beat When she smiled on us so sweet, How our blushes when we'd meet Would arise.

To that gentle maid divine We one day Sent a tiny valentine Made to say: "Roses red and violets blue, Sugar is sweet and so are you, If your love like mine is true No knife can cut our love in two,

I am thine.' Since those happy days of curis, Long ago, We have loved some other girls, As you know. But those other girls combined Never charmed our heart and mind As that first wee sweetheart shrined-

That is so. To those other girls we've sent Valentines
Costing dollars gladly spent,
And the lines, Written by some poet great, All were strictly up to date, And artistic and ornate In designs.

But those costly gems of art, Decked with gold. Never thrilled a tender heart Like the old Little penny thing we laid At our sweetheart's door afraid Lest the secret thus conveyed

Should be told. -H. C. Dodge, in Chicago Daily Sun.



LARISSA ROB-ERTS and her mother lived in a little brown house that looked like a groundbird's nest

so small and cozy was it. They had agreed that it was just the right size, which was a sensible way of looking at the matter as they could not afford a larger one. When Clarissa's father died the little money that was left after hi affairs were settled had been invested in this place. Their many friends were horror struck, at first, to think that they would be willing to adopt such a simple style of living after the luxurious one to which they had been accustomed; but Clarissa and Mrs. Roberts decided that it would not be honest to assume to be what they were not, so the debts were paid instead.

But they succeeded in making the little cottage such a home-like place that even the old friends looked with envious eyes at the pretty dove-cote, and more than one said: "It is an ideal home, and not so bad, after all." The veranda was a bower of beauty in the summer time, for it was covered with woodbine and Virginia creeper; and in the winter the "Ampelopsisvitchi," so common in the south, kept rich and green-with the exception of faint tints of crimson that came with the frosts. The windows were bright and cheery with gardens of geraniums. heliotrope and marguerites and from the street presented a pretty appearance. There was nothing elaborate in the interior; most of the heavy furniture had been sold, for both Mrs. Roberts and Clarissa had a sense of the eternal fitness of things, and knew it would be out of place here.

To be sure, the parlor was also the sitting-room and library, but Clarissa's deft fingers had transformed it into a veritable shrine. The pretty ingrain carpet made one think of a bed of moss, and the white net curtains were shirred on small brass rods, draped back artistically at the sides, and tied with long loops of white ribbon. A handsome yellow jardiniere with a tall palm stood in one window and a hanging the picture. There were pictures and beauty-loving eyes of the girl and the basket in the other window completed books galore, and in one corner a delicate odor soothed her tired nerves. guitar spoke eloquently of the taste of | She had not noticed the card, but there the owners.

When it had been announced that Clarissa was going to teach in the high school, the numerous friends were in- Clarissa did not notice; their beauty dignant. "Of all persons Clarissa Roberts was the last one of whom I would have thought it," was the protest. But Clarissa remained serene and went along the even tenor of her way, paying no attention to Madam Grundy.

The eighth grade was noted for its teacher came to rule there was a de- her. cided change. Everything went off beautifully the first day or two, and many comments were passed on her amiability. One of the girls said to Tim Sage: "My, isn't she pretty?" whereupon he assented with a nod and said. as he looked at her black eyes and red hair: "I bet she gets mad awful easy, and won't it be a picnie?" Tim smacked his lips as if he anticipated a feast.

and therefore the majority disliked his toilet. to displease her, though sometimes they carried their mischievousness too far. But it was evident that Miss

with her.

Tim Sage, the youth of whom mention has been made, had a superation has been made him had been made had bee overflowed. Clarissa reprimanded him issa, and in spite of her rebuff he made quietly several times, and finally several resolutions. when he created a sensation by producing angleworms from the depths of a mysterious pocket, with which he frightened the girls, she took the youngster in hand.

"Tim," said she, sternly, "you may remain after school."

of being allowed to do as he pleased, was rather humiliating. He said nothing, however, and Clarissa congratulated herself on the success of her discipline, for the boy continued to behave unusually well.

Alas! "Still waters often run deep" -and this was the case with Tim. On the evening of Valentine day Prof. Spencer, the superintendent of tion and said: "After your letter, Mr. the school, walked home with Clarissa Spencer, I think it is not necessary When we loved to and talked over some exercises they for me to explain." were planning for the 22d. As they parted at the gate the young man and perfect the arrangement. Clarissa assented, and tipping his hat graher mother a hug and said: "Mam- flowers." ma, dear, Prof. Spencer is going to But I received a letter," stamwill have to give up our plan, and like your writing."

some other time will do just as well." "By the way daughter, here is the Spencer. mail and one in a strange handwriting."

Clarissa opened one after another that he was the victim of a practical and smiled as the effusion of some of joke. the valentines, for she knew they came from a number of her girl pu- cried: "Who could be so cruel?" pils who were devotion itself.

She came to the last one that was play comforter. addressed in a masculine hand which she could not mistake, and a faint hue | Boberts?" said he. "Part of the note of pink came into her cheeks. She at least is true, in regard to my feelhastily tore the envelope open and ing toward you; but it seems some

"Salem, Va., Feb. 14, 1896. "Dear Miss Roberts: It must be that you have discovered the love I bear you. day, hoping that I would see some response to my affection, and am not disappointed, for I believe it is returned. Believe me that this is not my fault alone, for your conduct has led me to feel that my love is reciprocated, and therefore I ask you to be my valentine, and make me happy,
"Your sincere admirer and Valentine."

mother, who read it slowly and then re- Ohio Farmer, read it before speaking.

There was no denying the fact that Clarissa admired Prof. Spencer more loverly advances.

He had always been so courteous and have loved and lost," "My love is like

which, after his reign of terror and issa's manner was even more frigid than her note had been. He forgot all about the "exer-

cises." but immediately launched into the subject so near his heart. "Miss Roberts, you will pardon me, but I could not understand your note, and I am sure there is some mistake." The tones were calm and courteous, so Clarissa controlled her emo-

"My letter!" said he in amazement. "Yes, your letter," responded Clarisasked if he might call that evening sa coolly, "in your handwriting and

signed Valentine." "Miss Roberts, allow me to say that ciously and thanking her, he left her. I have not written you a word except-On entering the house, Clarissa gave ing the message I inclosed with the

spend the evening with us, so we mered Clarissa, "and it certainly looks

"May I see it, please?" asked Mr. Clarissa produced it somewhat reluctantly, and the former assured her

The poor girl covered her face and

"Do you feel so very badly, Miss the way roughly."

It is needless to go into details. The when another Valentine day came they were married, thanks to Tim's inimitable copying. As no one ever scolded the incorrigible boy, he thought the joke was too tame and therefore was disgusted with himself. Clarissa's fingers trembled, and her It is needless to say that Prof. Speneyes flashed threateningly, but without cer and Clarissa never took the troua word she handed the letter to her ble to correct him.-Louise E. Dew, in

A Valentine Diversion.

line from a couplet appropriate to St. put affoat for effect. She was disappointed and chagrined. Valentine, such as "Tis better to



CLARISSA OPENED ONE AFTER ANOTHER.

you see it is in his own handwriting rect line at the same instant. When

and I know it so well." port was written, and signed Prof. J. the king and queen of hearts, and an

darted into another room. "A box of flowers, dear," said her

mother; "shall I open it?" An exquisite bunch of violets nestling among the green leaves, delighted the it lay and she read: "James W. Spencer -with best wishes."

The innocent flowers smiled, but was spoiled now.

Replacing the cover, she wrote a hurried note of thanks and curtly asked Mr. Spencer to pardon her, but said she could not accept them after his presumptuous conduct. Then calling to Tim, who happened to be passing, she refractory pupils, but when the new asked him to deliver the package for

Tim chuckled inwardly, but was very polite and accommodating, and an hour from the time the box was first sent, it was back to the donor.

To say that Prof. Spencer was amazed does not express the feelings he experienced on opening the box. "It is so unlike her," he thought; "what can she mean?" He knew there was a misunderstanding somewhere, his mathe-But they soon learned that Miss matical judgment taught him that Roberts ruled by love instead of fear and with a determined air he made

He was always particular about his attire, which was faultless on all occasions, and this evening spent more time than usual dressing. He had adpered with, for woe was it to the mired Clarissa for many years, and aftyoungster who disobeyed the rules. er her father's death his respect grew She was patient, no one could deny into something more substantial, but that, but even "patience ceases to be he watched her career with no little a virtue," sometimes, and so it was interest and when she went to teaching

As he neared the house he saw a pretty little domestic picture, for thus were joy and business blent; Clarissa with a colony of kittens in her then sold the song which told his lap and their mother at her feet, was love, and was not out one cent.— enjoying it, unconscious of an audi-

Mr. Spencer felt guilty, but he could It was then that a settlement took not help gazing at the tableau before place, and being of a sullen disposi- knocking. Mrs. Roberts admitted him, tion he never forgot the punishment, a trifle coolly, he thought, and Clar-

of her affection, that she had shown it | er, in the Woman's Home Companion, clearly. She laid her head in her were read aloud in turn, each heart mother's lap and had a good cry, girl- being sold to the person who first like. But Mrs. Roberts soothed and succeeded in completing its couplet. quieted her by by saying there must be | The guesses were made orally, duplicate hearts being given in case there "But you see there can't be, mamma; were more than one guessing the corall the hearts had thus been auc-Then going to her writing desk she tioned off the couple who had won took out a slip of paper on which a re- the greatest number were proclaimed W. Spencer. The writing corresponded. American Beauty, certainly the queen there was no denying the fact, and the of roses, was presented to each. The two women were silent until a knock at two who were least successful were the door startled them and Clarissa given small heart-shaped boxes filled A CONFESSION.

"How did you come to pluck up enough courage to propose to Miss

Frisbie, Bunting?" "Well, she suggested that I had better not send her an expensive valentine this year, but save my money to go to housekeeping," confessed Bunt-

ing.-Detroit Free Press.

A Utica man who is in New York recently invited a bright and charming young lady to go to the theater with either the boulevard or the Amsterdam avenue cars. As they were leaving the young lady's home she reas a means of livelihood, he knew that | marked to her escort in the hearing

The Troubadour's Valentine. He warbled 'neath her window;

Depends on Circumstances. Dear girl, I send this valentine To tell thee for thy love I pine. But if already thou'rt bespoke, Please view it as a merr; joka. -Chicago Daily Record.

#### CONFLICTING STORIES.

nfusing Reports and Rumors Regarding the Shipping and Their Significance.

The conflicting stories we have been cal Hanna-Payne bill must be pertake any interest in the subject.

Not only do different correspondsame correspondent teils different is sure to be defeated for the session. The next day it is sure to pass before the adjournment because a comprofactory to the antis. The third day the outcome is wrapped in impenetrable clouds of doubt and uncer-

But no one should jump to the conclusion that the correspondents are a sensational lot who are continually pose of creating excitement. The shiftings are a natural, not to say un-Then it was Mr. Spencer's turn to avoidable, result of the lobby and other influences which are continually filling the air about the capital with conflicting sounds, those of one in one locality and those of another or a different locality.

The struggle is pretty severe, and tangle adjusted itself easily and Mr. there are the alternations of appato hide. I have watched you from day to Spencer and Clarissa arranged matters rent prospects usual in such cases. very satisfactorily; so much so that | One day those interested on one side relax, while those on the other redouble their exertions; the next day nuity from out the public treasury. the order is reversed. It is the business of the correspondent to record the succeeding impressions, and not to write according to his notions of and the fact that the latter are suffiprophetic views of what it eventual- on anything like equal terms is in itself

Those who are interested in the enactment of such a thing as the shipping grab naturally are not over-A "sale of hearts" made a pleasant scrupulous in their regard for truth, than any other man, but she knew that diversion at a recent valentine party. and it is not in the power of any she had concealed her regard with the The hearts were cut from water-color correspondent to run to earth every utmost care, for he had never made any paper, and on each was written one questionable statement which may be

A reasonable conclusion from the conflicting statements and rumors agreeable, so perfectly dignified, and a red, red rose," "Two souls with but seems to be that the bill would pass session be necessitated because of the now he was so bold and presumptuous a single thought," etc. These semi- the senate if it could be brought to fight upon the subsidies, the blame will -so rude as to assert that he was sure quotations, says Alice Carlotta Wheel- a vote, but that it is unlikely to be fall only upon the senators who blocked brought to a vote because of the open opposition of many senators and the have the bill made law .- Chicago Recsecret but hardly less effective oppo- ord (Ind.). sition of others who do not care to seem to antagonize a measure which they know is strongly approved by Truth Regarding the True State of

the administration. There is a possibility, however, that even if a vote could be reached enough republicans would vote in the negative to defeat it. Some western sen- we are to have a great popular reaction ators may fear the people of their in this country on the Philippine issue. or the party bosses in congress.-Chi- ing the condition of affairs in the Philcago Chronicle.

#### A HUGE BLUNDER.

Impossible System of Government the Administration Is Trying in the Philippines.

Secretary Root either is trying to

throw dust in the eyes of congress and the people, or has his own eyes full of dust. Afer moving heaven and earth to get 70,000 troops for use in the Philippines, imploring congress to pass the army bill so as to prevent a great military disaster, he now coolly reports that the Philippine commission thinks "disturbances existing can better be suppressed by native police of a civil government!" Why does he not make public Gen. MacArthur's reports? It was upon them that Senator Sewell planted himself-when he said in open senate that the war is more bitterly waged than ever, and that a great standing army would be necessay in the Philippines for many years to come. The trtuh is, and it stands out on the face of the commission's report, that there is constan: and unavaidable friction between Gen. MacArthur and Judge Taft. The system of government which they are trying to put in force is unworkable. The whole thing was a muddle from the with the tiniest of red candy hearts, start, and the commission asks congress to give it some independent power. Another thing which glares at us in the report is the huge blunder our government made in undertaking, under the treaty of Paris, to guarantee the land titles of the friars. To do this. Judge Taft now says, would throw Luzon into convulsions, and he calmly recommends that the United States buy the friars out. In other words, WE HAVE IMPERIALISM NOW. more millions are to be flung into the Philippine rat hole. Meanwhile, the Rule by Military Force Is Already amiable gentleman in the white house "earnestly recommends" that congress pull him out of the pit which his own hands have digged. But how can congress legislate till it knows what pcwers the supreme court will decide it has in the premises? Muddle, muddle, toil off, but a thing to be abandoned. and trouble-that is the history of our | In his recent speech in the senate Philippine policy up to date .- N. Y. he administered a well-deserved re-

### POINTED PARAGRAPHS.

-The subsidy bill is to be kept before the senate. The beneficiaries want their money, and they want it badly .-

Indianapolis News (Ind.). -Hanna's ship subsidy grab on the sea and the great railway trust on land promise to make easy traveling for the monopoly idea .- St. Louis Republic.

of 100,000 to be sent over there will have actning to do but loaf and draw rations .- Kansas City Times.

-Mr. McKinley is said to desire additional authority to deal with the Philippines. Since he has already gone beyond the limits of the constitution in dealing with these people, we fail to understand why he wants congress to give him any more authority. Once outside the constitution, there is nothing to check him — Chattaneous News ing to check him.—Chattanooga News. | ago. Imperialism has con

suns." Nearly every new senator who has been elected will be against the subsidy bill if it goes over to the extra session. The new ones who have come in the senate this session in the place of a unit against this administration when in the senate this session in the place of every Filipino in Europe to-day, and there those removed by death or to fill va- are thousands of them, is against our govcancies are not in favor of Hanna's ernment over there?" looting scheme .- Duluth Herald

#### IN SORE STRAITS.

Strong Opposition to the Ship Subsidy Bill Making Advocates Uneasy.

As the time for adjournment apgetting from Washington for some proaches the prospects for the pasage time as to the prospects of the pirati- of the ship subsidies bill are becoming steadily darker, but the senators who plexing to newspaper readers who are opposing this measure should not relax their efforts on that account. In the complications which have arisen ents tell different stories, but the in the present session it is difficult to foresee the developments which may stories at different times, and some arise from day to day to promote or reof them skip from side to side with tard a given bill. The advocates of the bewildering agility. One day the bill subsidies heretofore have been found to' be working most effectively when the prospects before them seemed darkest, and unless Senator Frye has remise has been reached which is satis- canted he still stands ready to hold up even the appropriation bills unless the subsidy proposition is made law.

It is evident, however, that the measure's enactment is doubtful. This should stimulate its opponents to keep up their efforts and look out for tricks designed to bring the bill forward uninventing stories for the mere pur- expectedly and give it a more favorable position. It has been made manifest during the session that the sentiment of the vast middle west and of a considerable proportion of all other parts of the country is unalterably opposed to the subsidy plan. Among those who kind predominating one day and are not actively opposed to it, another very large proportion of the public is one has got ahead of me, and paved kind the following day in the same either apathetic or not fully informed as to the character and purpose of the measure. The active support of the bill comes from the interests to be benefited and from the handful of senators who have taken it upon themselves to endow those interests with a rich an-

The senatorial contest over the measure is thus fairly a contest of public sentiment against private interests, what the situation ought to be, or his ciently powerful to fight their battle unpleasantly suggestive of the extent to which private interests have gained influence in the senate. Were the measure wholly commendable in itself, it is yet of no such vital importance as to require consideration now, when there is barely sufficient time to pass the appropriation and tax-reduction bills. The senators opposing it should exercise vigilance and energy in seeing that it does not pass. Should a special

## DECEIVING THE PEOPLE. Affairs in the Philippines

Now Coming Out.

One cannot help wondering whether own states more than the president After long delay, the truth concernippine archipelago is gradually coming to the knowledge of the American people; and, to the surprise of a large number, they find this truth to be widely at variance with the statements made by those who have been officially responsible for our Philippine policy. In view of this now ascertained condition, what confidence, we ask again, can the American people place in the utterances of those who have sought, in an apparently willful manner, to

thus deceive them? How far can human credulity go? How much better are we than the benighted people of Spain, who a few years ago were kept lulled in a state of blind contentment by the official reports which the government at Madrid had given out of the battles that had been fought with the Cuban guerrillas, and the immense victories that the Spanish troops had won? At that time those Americans who commented upon the subject could not find words strong enough to describe the crass stupidity of the Spanish people who could be thus deceived and misled by their government. But it may be pertinent to ask, in what respect the condition of the American people has differed during the last two years, in reference to the subject we have referred to, from the condition of the Spanish people four or five years ago respecting the Cuban insurrection? An autocratic government may feel that it is justified in keeping its people in ignorance; but in what way is it possible to have a government of the people, by the people and for the people carried on while they are grossly deceived concerning important public matters, it is beyond our imagination to understand .- Boston Herald (Ind.).

# a Fact in This "Free'

Senator Teller is right in saying that imperialism is not a fear, but a realization; not a thing to be warded

buke to those who prate about partial liberty and conditional self-government. He said:

"I have not agreed with everybody whe has been in fear of imperialism. I said two years ago last month in the senate that there would not be any imperialism there, for the American people would not allow it. Since then I have seen in those islands an imperial government that has had no equal on the face of the earth, an imperial government that has not a counterpart anywhere under the heavens, an imperial government with five men, and five men only, strangers to the language, strangers to the are taking the oath of allegiance as the administration organs say, that army people and appropriating it without their consent, ignoring the people entirely. "Mr. President, the czar of Russia is an absolute czar. He has a council of 60 men who sit with him and consider public af-

who sit with him and consider public affairs, but the 60 men are Russians. They are people of that country. They have their sympathies and their ambitions for Russia. "These men in the Philippine islands are

The troubles gathering about Mark Hanna and his subsidy bill are increasing with the "process of the lington), is, what are you going to do now?

Are you going to keep up this imperialistic

-The Commoner.

Sunny South. The Mobile & Ohio will run Special Low Rate Excursions, good until June the first, permitting invalids and others to stop at permitting invalids and others to stop at first-class hotels enroute at very nominal rates to all points in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Cuba, Central and South America. Low Rate Homeseeker's 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month. One Way Settler's same days at Very Low Rates. Any ticket agent or J. T. Poe, G. T. M., Mobile, Ala. C. M. Shepard, G. P. A., Mobile, Ala. C. M. Shepard, G. P. A., Mobile, Ala. M. H. Bohreer, D. P. A., 351 Marquette Bldg., Chicago, Ill., 7 West Fort Street, Detroit, Mich.

Those Great Inventions. Admiring Friend-What makes you think your discovery was so great a success?

Professor—Why, as soon as I announced the idea every savant in Europe remembered that he had known of it since he cut his first teeth!—Chicago Daily News.

Piso's Cure cannot be too highly spoken of as a cough cure.—J. W. O'Brien, 322 Third Ave., N., Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 6, 1900.

From labor, health, from hea'th content ment springs .- Beattie.

Sweat and fruit acids will not discolor stamped on it. Beware of imitations. goods dyed with PUTNAM FADELESS DYES. Sold by all druggists.

Love can make us friends as well as angels.

Low Rate Winter Tours to the | Career and Character of Abrana

"Yes, it is terrible," moaned the Weeping Mother. "It is terrible to think of our little son in the hands of the kidnapers."
"But," said the Sympathizing Friend, "think of the social presitige it gives you."

Baltimore American. Best for the Bowels No matter what alls you, headache to a cancer, you will never get well until your bowels are put right. Cascarets help nature, cure you without a gripe or pain, pro-ince easy natural movements, cost you just 10 cents to start getting your health back. Cascarets Candy Cathartie, the genuine, put up in metal boxes, every tablet has C. C. C.

Husband-"What makes you stand

# THE NERVES OF WOMEN



"I am so nervous and wretched." "I feel as if I should fly." How familiar these expressions are! Little things annoy you and make you irritable. You can't sleep, you are unfit for ordinary duties, and are subject to dizziness.

That bearing down sensation helps to make you feel miserable. You have backache and pains low down in the side, pain

in top of head, later on at the base of the brain. Such a condition points unerringly to serious uterine

If you had written to Mrs. Pinkham when you first experienced impaired vitality, you would have been spared these hours of awful suffering. Happiness will be gone out of your life forever, my sister,

unless you act promptly. Procure Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound at once. It is absolutely sure to help you. Then write to Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., if there is anything about your case you do not understand. You need not be afraid to tell her the things you could not explain to the doctor—your letter is seen only by women and is absolutely confidential. Mrs. Pinkham's vast experi-

ence with such troubles enables her to tell you just what is best for you, and she will charge you nothing for her advice. Mrs. Valentine Tells of Happy Results Accomplished by Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

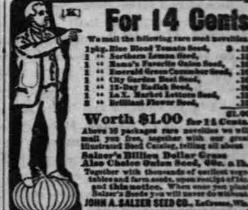
"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM:—It is with pleasure that I add my testimony to your list, hoping it may induce others to avail themselves of the benefit of your valuable remedy. Before taking Lydia E. Pink-ham's Vegetable Compound, I felt very bad, was terribly nervous and tired, had sick headaches, no appetite, gnawing pain in stomach, pain in my back and right side, and so weak I could scarcely stand. I was not able to do anything. Had sharp pains all through my body. Before I had taken half a bottle of your medicine, I found myself improving I continued its use until I had taken four bottles, and felt so well that I did not need to take an; more. I am like a new person, and your medicine shall always have my praise."—Mrs. W.



P. VALENTINE, 566 Ferry Avenue, Camden, N. J.







WHEN WRITING TO ADVERTISERS